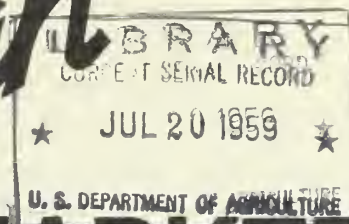


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Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS



FOR RELEASE MONDAY, JULY 13, 1959

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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NEW PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO U. S. FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE

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from the Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department
of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C., Room 5922. Phone:
REpublic 7-4142, Ext. 2445.

Colombia Increases Its Tariff Duties. Foreign Agriculture Circular FATP
15-59. 3 pp.

Agricultural Trade of French Cameroun. Foreign Agriculture Circular FATP
16-59. 8 pp.

Status of Cotton Purchase Authorizations Under Title I, Public Law 480.
Foreign Agriculture Circular FC 9-59. 3 pp.

Milk Production and Utilization in Principal Producing Countries, 1958.
Foreign Agriculture Circular FD 10-59. 4 pp.

World Rice Production Unusually High. Foreign Agriculture Circular FR 3-59.
4 pp.

World's 1959 Corn Crop Set at 7.3 Billion Bushels. Foreign Agriculture
Circular FG 9-59.

BETTER QUALITY OFFERINGS IMPROVE RHODESIAN PRICES

Sales of 1959 crop flue-cured tobacco in Southern Rhodesia's auction markets during the week ended June 11 totaled 7.4 million pounds, at an average price equivalent to U.S. 46.2 cents per pound.

For the selling season through June 11, about 80 million pounds had been sold at an average of 36.8 cents. Last year, in the comparable period, about 63 million pounds were sold at an average of 41.7 cents. Purchase prices have been rising in recent weeks, reflecting the better quality of offerings as the season has progressed.

EGYPT'S TOBACCO IMPORTS STEADY; U. S. SHARE DOWN

Egyptian imports of leaf tobacco (duty-paid withdrawals from customs warehouses) rose a little in 1958--to 25.7 million pounds from 25.6 million in 1957.

Imports from the United States, however, dropped from 8.8 million in 1957 to 7.3 million in 1958, and the U. S. share in the Egyptian market fell from 34.5 percent to 28.2 percent. Usings of U.S. leaf declined about 1.5 million pounds last year from the 1957 level, judging by withdrawals from customs warehouses--the most reliable measure of leaf tobacco consumption in Egyptian factories.

There were substantial increases in importation and use of leaf from Communist China, Yugoslavia, Japan, and Bulgaria last year. Combined imports from these 4 countries climbed from 5.5 million pounds in 1957 to 8.8 million in 1958.

TOBACCO, LEAF: Egypt, imports 1/ by countries of origin, 1957 and 1958

Country of origin	1957	1958
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
United States.....	8,829	7,255
Communist China.....	2,255	3,205
Bulgaria.....	1,601	1,993
Soviet Union.....	697	578
Yugoslavia.....	1,080	2,396
Greece.....	2,826	2,286
Turkey.....	3,042	1,940
India.....	2,368	2,132
Japan.....	516	1,193
Others.....	2,362	2,728
Total.....	25,576	25,706

1/ Does not include small amounts of Tombac and Hassan Keif.

MAY 1959 U. S. TOBACCO EXPORTS
HIGHER THAN YEAR EARLIER

U. S. exports of unmanufactured tobacco in May 1959, were higher than in May 1958, both in volume and value. May 1959 shipments totaled 25 million pounds, valued at \$18.9 million. In May 1958, they were slightly more than 24 million pounds, valued at \$17.5 million.

Exports of flue-cured, Virginia fire-cured, and cigar binder were larger than in May last year, offsetting drops in other types of leaf.

For the first 5 months of calendar 1959, exports totaled 126.8 million pounds, down 2 percent from January-May 1958. Exports for the first 11 months of fiscal 1959 totaled 448 million pounds, compared with 441 million for the corresponding period of fiscal 1958.

TOBACCO, UNMANUFACTURED: U.S. exports, by types and export weight, May and January-May 1958 and 1959, with percent change

Type	May		Percent change	January-May		Percent change
	1958	1959		1958	1959	
	<u>1,000</u> <u>pounds</u>	<u>1,000</u> <u>pounds</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>1,000</u> <u>pounds</u>	<u>1,000</u> <u>pounds</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Flue-cured.....	17,559	19,984	+13.8	94,346	92,334	-2.1
Burley.....	1,459	1,087	-25.5	11,672	11,716	+.4
Dk.-fired Ky.-Tenn....	2,519	1,469	-41.7	10,055	7,797	-22.5
Va. fire-cured 1/.....	122	216	+77.0	1,907	2,027	+6.3
Maryland.....	668	556	-16.8	4,284	4,265	-.4
Green River.....	53	2	-96.2	778	562	-27.8
One Sucker.....	62	34	-45.2	414	1,684	+306.8
Black Fat, etc.	538	423	-21.4	1,914	1,796	-6.2
Cigar wrapper.....	678	368	-45.7	2,030	2,049	+.9
Cigar binder.....	284	633	+122.9	1,009	1,469	+45.6
Cigar filler.....	5	---	---	27	252	---
Other.....	108	179	+65.7	935	888	-5.0
Total.....	24,055	24,951	+3.7	129,371	126,839	-2.0
	<u>Million</u> <u>dollars</u>	<u>Million</u> <u>dollars</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Million</u> <u>dollars</u>	<u>Million</u> <u>dollars</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Declared value.....	17.5	18.9	+8.0	91.4	91.8	+.4

1/ Includes sun-cured.

Bureau of the Census.

U.S. exports of tobacco products in May 1959 were valued at \$7.6 million--a drop of 7 percent from the May 1958 value. Exports of cigarettes, chewing tobacco and snuff, and bulk smoking tobacco were down. Cigars and cheroots showed a good gain, and exports of smoking tobacco in packages were a little above those for May 1958.

TOBACCO PRODUCTS: U.S. exports, May and January-May
1958 and 1959, with percentage change

Products and value	May		Percent	January-May		Percent
	1958	1959	change	1958	1959	change
Cigars and cheroots						
(1,000 pieces).....	688	2,150	+212.5	4,034	5,648	+40.0
Cigarettes						
(million pieces).....	1,728	1,621	-6.2	7,134	7,477	+4.8
Chewing and snuff						
(1,000 pounds).....	79	54	-31.6	507	399	-21.3
Smoking tobacco in pkgs.						
(1,000 pounds).....	48	54	+12.5	274	268	-2.2
Smoking tobacco in bulk						
(1,000 pounds).....	785	557	-29.0	3,643	3,700	+1.6
Total declared value						
(million dollars).....	8.2	7.6	-7.3	34.3	36.2	+5.5

Bureau of the Census.

CUBA FIXES PRICES OF
FLUE-CURED LEAF

Minimum prices for Cuba's 1959 crop of flue-cured leaf, which totaled about 4.6 million pounds, have been announced by the government. The crop was divided into 3 categories: (1) middle leaves, with a minimum price of 50 cents per pound; (2) bottom and top leaves, 35 cents; and (3) broken and other leaves not included in the first 2 categories, 15 cents. Each grower may, if he desires, sell his crop at a minimum average price of 35 cents per pound.

In recent years, Cuba has stepped up production of flue-cured tobacco, mainly for use by local manufacturers. The 1959 crop was about 3 times as large as 1958 production.

ISRAEL EXPECTS LARGER CITRUS CROP

Israel's 1959-60 citrus crop is expected to be about 9 percent larger than the 1958-59 crop; 5,000 acres planted in 1954 are coming into production. Exports are expected to total 11.8 million boxes, of which 8.2 million would be Shamouti oranges, 1.6 million Valencia oranges, 1.5 million grapefruit, 350,000 lemons, and 190,000 other citrus. In 1958-59, exports totaled 11.4 million boxes.

GREECE BECOMES A WHEAT EXPORTER

The recent sale by Greece of 150,000 metric tons of wheat for exportation marks the first time in history that Greece has exported any substantial quantity of wheat. The sale was authorized by the Ministry of Commerce to reduce the surplus of low-protein, soft red winter wheat accumulated under the high price supports for home-grown wheat in recent years.

The sale, all from government stocks, consisted of 50,000 tons to the United Kingdom, 50,000 tons to the Continent, and 50,000 tons to Brazil. The wheat is believed to have sold at around \$50.00 per metric tons, f.o.b. vessel, in Piraeus, Thessaloniki, and Volos. About 90 percent of the sale was soft wheat and the balance durum. Around 40,000 tons was from the 1957 crop and 110,000 tons from the 1958 crop.

Wheat is the only price-supported grain in Greece. The guaranteed price for the 1958 crop ranged from 3.50 to 4.60 drachmas per oke (\$2.46 to \$3.24 per bushel). The government stated that its losses on the sale amounted to 344 million drachmas (over \$11 million). Computation of the loss was based on price paid to the growers, plus storage and handling charges.

Government stocks of wheat on April 1, 1959, amounted to 421,000 metric tons, against 325,000 tons a year earlier. Most of it was home-grown, low protein, soft red winter wheat. Indications are that government stocks on June 30, 1959, amounted to 86,500 tons, compared with 186,000 tons a year earlier.

Since late 1958, use of imported wheat for bread flour has been prohibited except for small quantities of U.S. hard winter wheat purchased under Public Law 480 and used for luxury types of flour. The government hopes to discourage further expansion in wheat acreage and to increase production of feed grains and other feedstuffs.

MOROCCO RAISES SUPPORT
PRICE FOR BARLEY

The Moroccan Ministries of Agriculture and National Economy recently announced that the price support for the 1959 barley crop would be 1,750 francs per quintal (\$.91 per bushel) f.o.b. elevators or ports. This is 50 francs per quintal (\$.026 per bushel) higher than for the 1958 crop.

The announcement was made as the harvest began. Last year, the price was not announced until July 14, when the harvest was nearly over. The earlier announcement this year enables growers to sell their barley as soon as harvested with no danger of selling below the support level. It also helps exporters to make early contracts.

Exporters claim they will be unable to export without a subsidy if foreign buyers offer less than \$55 a ton.

BRAZILIAN COFFEE TO BE EXCHANGED FOR EAST GERMAN FERTILIZERS

On June 10, the Brazilian Government authorized the Brazilian Coffee Institute (IBC) to import directly 75,000 tons of East German fertilizers--60,000 tons of potassium chloride and 15,000 tons of ammonium sulfate.

Payment for the fertilizers will be made in coffee from stocks on hand. The IBC will sell the imported fertilizers to coffee producers.

BRAZIL ANNOUNCES 1959-60 COFFEE PROGRAM

Brazil announced its 1959-60 (July-June) coffee program on June 29. The rate of exchange for export purposes has been raised from 60 to 76 cruzeiros to the dollar, effective at the beginning of the current season, July 1, 1959.

The 1959-60 program provides the same quota percentages for export, domestic consumption, and expurgation as in 1958-59. They are 60, 30, and 10 percent, respectively. Loans on the coffee crop will be somewhat higher than in 1958-59.

ABOVE-AVERAGE IRANIAN PISTACHIO HARVEST IN PROSPECT

Iran's pistachio harvest is expected to reach last season's level of 4,500 short tons, 9 percent above the 4,100-ton average for the 5-year period 1952-56. Growing conditions have been favorable this year.

Exports of Iranian pistachios, unshelled basis, for the year ending August 21, 1958 totaled 2,911 short tons. Destinations and quantities thereto were as follows: United States 2,201, Lebanon 200, Iraq 160, Kuwait 77, India 73, Pakistan 51, Oman 50, France 37, Syria 36, Germany 15, United Kingdom 8, Jordan 3.

As of mid-June this season, Iranian pistachios, f.o.b. Khorramshahr, were being quoted at \$900 to \$1,000 per short ton.

EL SALVADOR PLANS NEW PASTEURIZING PLANT

Acting on a survey by the Sociedad Cooperativa de Ganaderos, the Instituto Salvadoreno de Fomento de la Produccion will build a milk plant on the outskirts of San Salvador.

The plant is expected initially to process 55,000 pounds of milk daily, although it will have equipment to pasteurize 220,000 pounds. The milk will be packaged in paper throw-away cartons.

LARGER SPANISH FILBERT HARVEST EXPECTED

The 1959 Spanish filbert harvest is expected to reach 17,000 short tons, unshelled--about 17 percent more than the 14,500 tons produced in 1958. The coming harvest, however, will be well under the bumper 1957 crop of 24,000 tons.

Applicable minimum export prices for Spanish filberts, f.o.b. Spanish ports, or French-Spanish border, have been as follows in the 1958-59 season:

Type	: Sept. 1, 1958- : Feb. 13, 1959	: Feb. 14, 1959, : to date
	: : Cents per : <u>pound</u>	: : Cents per : <u>pound</u>
Shelled:	:	:
Regular.....	: 45.4	: 35.4
Small.....	: 42.4	: 33.1
Asturias.....	: 43.5	: 34.0
Unshelled:	:	:
Regular.....	: 16.8	: 13.2

CANADA NOW SHIPPING LIQUID LARD THROUGH SEAWAY IN TANKERS

Canadian lard from Alberta has recently been shipped to Montreal for loading in liquid form in a tanker bound for the United Kingdom through the St. Lawrence Seaway. The shipment consisted of 25 railroad tank cars.

Several bulk shipments of U.S. liquefied lard previously had been made through the Seaway (see Foreign Crops and Markets, June 15, 1959). The Canadian movement points up further the possibility that the liquefaction shipping technique will make North American lard more competitive with continental European lard in the British market.

Shipping lard in liquid form is said to offer many advantages over conventional methods. Packing and shipping costs are lower. Also, the advantages of the new technique accrue basically to the purchaser, since the lard is generally sold f.o.b. Another advantage is that the liquid lard is easier to discharge at its port of destination.

U.K. lard imports in January-April 1959 total 94 million pounds, compared with 77 million pounds in the same period of 1958. British lard imports from Canada increased sharply from 90,000 pounds to 2 million, while imports from the United States rose from 40 million pounds to 58 million. United States lard prices have been lower because of increased hog slaughter.

AUSTRALIAN BEEF SHIPMENTS TO U.S.

A total of 9,515 long tons of frozen beef was shipped from Australia to the United States in early June. The shipments were as follows:

Port	Doric	Whakatane	Rakaia	Orcades	Anna Bakke	Total
New York.....	48	1,443	4,240	---	---	5,731
Chicago.....	45	80	250	---	---	375
Los Angeles...	1,034	---	---	68	15	1,117
San Francisco..	1,768	---	---	137	107	2,012
Philadelphia..	---	30	88	---	---	118
Boston.....	---	32	130	---	---	162
Total....	2,895	1,585	4,708	205	122	9,515

The S.S. Monterey sailed from Australia on June 19 with 136 tons of frozen beef destined for Los Angeles and 137 tons for San Francisco.

AUSTRALIAN WOOL PRICES
IMPROVE SLIGHTLY

Australian wool prices increased slightly during the week ending June 19 despite unusually large offerings. Most combing types rose 1 to 2 cents per pound, but were still slightly below a year ago. Sharp price rises in April encouraged many growers to shear early. As a result, sale offerings have been very heavy during the past 2 months as the end of the selling season (June 30) approached.

Australia's wool check for the first 10 months of the season (July-June) was 20 percent below the same period of the previous season. Total wool sales during July-April were valued at approximately \$530 million, compared with \$660 million a year earlier.

NEW ZEALAND MEAT SHIPMENTS TO U. S.

During July and early August, the following vessels are expected to sail from New Zealand with meat cargos for North America.

Ship	Departure	Destination	Quantity (long tons)
Haparangi.....	July 21	East Coast	3,200
Taranaki.....	July 23	do.	2,500
Wharanui.....	August 4	do.	500
Indian Reefer.....	July 10	West Coast	1,500
Mariposa.....	July 18	do.	200

DUTCH BUTTER PRICE UP

The Dutch wholesale price of butter has risen 1.9 cents per pound in recent months, mostly due to the sharp increase in domestic use and a drop in production. The retail price has risen 2.1 cents per pound.

Domestic consumption has increased about 30 percent during the first 5 months of 1959 compared with the same period of 1958. Production has decreased about 20 percent in the same period.

DENMARK SETS MINIMUM
PRICE FOR BUTTER FAT

A Danish agricultural bill passed on June 4 establishes a minimum price of 40 cents per pound for butterfat. Previously, the butterfat price was determined by the average export price of butter. Under the new bill, if the average export price exceeds 40 cents per pound, the domestic price will be raised accordingly.

NEW ZEALAND SELLING MORE
BUTTER IN FAR EAST

New Zealand's sales of butter to Ceylon, Hong Kong, Singapore, and the Philippines so far this year have shown a substantial increase over sales in the entire 1957-58 marketing season.

During the dairy trading year ending July 31, 1958, sales to Ceylon were 168,000 pounds. For the period August 1, 1958, to April 21, 1959, sales were 739,000 pounds. Shipments to Hong Kong were up from 448,000 pounds to 824,000 pounds, while those to Singapore rose from 372,000 pounds to slightly more than 1 million pounds in the partial year. Sales to the Philippines last year totaled 623,000 pounds; from August 1, 1958, to April 21, 1959, sales totaled 587,000 pounds.

Business between New Zealand and Far Eastern markets has been greatly helped by the operation of a second shipping line operating to most of these markets. Ceylon is still serviced by only one line.

U. S. RICE EXPORTS UP IN MAY

U.S. rice exports in May, at 1,437,000 bags (100 pounds) in terms of milled rice, were well above the 945,000 bags exported in April. Nearly a third went to Europe, principally to West Germany and Turkey. Other major destinations were Ceylon, Cuba, and Nansei and Nanpo Islands (include the Ryukyu Islands).

Rice exports in the first 10 months (August-May) of the 1958-59 marketing year were 10.5 million bags, up 0.5 million from the same period of 1957-58. Increased exports to Europe--accounting for 19 percent of total exports--were 2 million bags, compared with only 143,000 bags in the same months of 1957-58. Exports to Africa also increased significantly, but those to Asia and the Western Hemisphere declined.

RICE: United States exports, in terms of milled, to specified countries, May 1959, with comparisons 1/

Country of Destination	August- August-May			May	
	July	1957-58	1958-59	1958	1959 <u>2/</u>
	1957-58	1957-58	2/ 1958-59	1958	1959 <u>2/</u>
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Western Hemisphere:					
Canada	293	265	247	20	11
British West Indies ..	103	100	30	1	6
Cuba	4,246	3,442	3,345	90	202
Guatemala	68	50	23	5	5
Honduras	30	14	20	3	1
Netherlands Antilles..	54	43	50	5	4
Nicaragua	5	1	45	1	1
Bolivia	44	44	0	0	0
Peru	980	530	4	200	1
Venezuela	2	2	65	0	55
Other countries	70	46	52	0	11
Total	5,895	4,537	3,881	325	297
Europe:					
Belgium-Luxembourg ...	76	59	284	3/	26
West Germany	30	3/	876	3/	199
Greece	23	19	44	2	1
Netherlands	14	3	277	0	66
Sweden	12	10	34	3/	6
Switzerland	32	31	24	1	0
United Kingdom	34	19	362	19	35
Other countries	6	2	4/ 143	0	4/ 117
Total	227	143	2,044	22	450
Asia:					
Ceylon	331	331	859	0	220
Indonesia	753	0	89	0	0
Korea, Republic of ...	242	242	0	0	0
Pakistan	3,453	3,141	575	38	99
Philippines	554	377	1,140	0	0
Saudi Arabia	151	119	88	12	14
Other Arabian States..	126	115	187	3	30
Other countries	14	8	5/ 236	0	5/ 174
Total	5,624	4,333	3,174	53	537
Total Oceania	52	43	41	5	1
French West Africa	0	0	383	0	33
Liberia	270	236	269	7	42
Other Africa	23	18	6/ 113	5	13
Destination not specified	17	14	19	3/	3
Total exports (Census):	12,108	9,324	9,924	417	1,376
Ryukyu Islands <u>7/</u>	145	145	0	0	0
Section 416 donations ..	683	573	621	3/	61
World total	12,936	10,042	10,545	417	1,437

1/ Milled rice including brown, screenings, and brewers' rice and rough rice converted to terms of milled at 65 percent. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Less than 500 cwt. 4/ Includes 115,000 cwt. to Turkey. 5/ 155,000 cwt. to Nansei and Nanpo Islands in August to May, and 133,000 in May. 6/ 47,000 cwt. to French Somaliland and 29,000 to Union of South Africa. 7/ Programmed by ICA and shipped by the Army.

MALGACHE REPUBLIC WILL IMPORT RICE

The Malgache Republic (Madagascar) will import some 35,000 metric tons of rice this year. The demand was brought about by March cyclones which destroyed much of the 1958-59 rice crop.

Usually Malgache is a net exporter of rice, the country's staple food and its second largest crop. During calendar year 1958, the country exported 58,000 metric tons of rice, primarily to France.

EGYPT HARVESTS ABOVE- AVERAGE WHEAT CROP

Egypt's 1959 wheat crop is now estimated at 53 million bushels. This is above average but somewhat below the record 1954 harvest of 63.5 million bushels. Acreage this season is estimated at 1.5 million acres--with the exception of 1958, the smallest wheat acreage since 1952. Yields are estimated at 34.6 bushels per acre, well above average.

The new crop falls considerably below usual domestic needs, and imports of about 47 million bushels may be required during 1959-60. This would be slightly less than 1958-59 imports of wheat including flour in grain equivalent.

JAPAN'S AGRICULTURAL IMPORTS GAIN IN FIRST QUARTER 1959

Japan's imports of the 7 agricultural commodities most important in U.S. trade with that country totaled \$174 million from all sources and \$80 million from the United States during the first quarter of 1959.

Imports from all sources increased 10 percent from the low point reached during the last quarter of 1958 but still were 14 percent below the first quarter of 1958. Imports from the United States were up 28 percent from the previous quarter, but were down 25 percent from the corresponding period a year earlier. Thus the United States had a smaller share of Japan's imports of these items.

Total imports of each of the specified commodities except corn and hides and skins declined from the first quarter to the last quarter of 1958. Cotton, which showed the largest drop, was imported in smaller volume and at lower prices. During the first 3 months of 1959 all commodities except wheat showed some increase over the previous quarter.

Imports from the U.S. showed declines in all items except barley and tallow between the first and last quarters of 1958. The sharpest decline was in cotton. In the first 3 months of 1959, the United States registered gains in all commodities except barley.

In the first quarter of 1959 and the last quarter of 1958, imports from the United States showed larger trade in soybeans than in cotton. In all of the previous postwar period, cotton has been the leading agricultural import from the United States usually by a substantial margin.

JAPAN: Imports of selected agricultural products, from all sources
and from the United States, January-March 1957-59

QUANTITY

Commodity	First Quarter 1957		First Quarter 1958		First Quarter 1959	
	Total	From U.S.	Total	From U.S.	Total	From U.S.
	1,000 metric tons					
Wheat.....	332	233	508	234	471	224
Barley.....	212	31	193	83	166	23
Corn.....	106	45	174	116	235	96
Hides and skins.....	19	15	18	13	23	14
Soybeans.....	226	181	267	217	313	306
Cotton <u>1</u> /....	859	466	667	305	591	169
Tallow.....	25	22	27	22	36	27

VALUE

	Million dollars					
Wheat.....	25.3	17.5	34.6	16.7	31.6	15.0
Barley.....	15.2	2.2	11.0	4.7	10.0	1.3
Corn.....	7.8	3.3	11.0	7.3	13.5	5.5
Hides and skins.....	7.5	5.3	6.6	4.3	8.0	4.3
Soybeans.....	26.6	20.9	27.2	22.1	29.3	28.4
Cotton.....	131.7	69.8	106.5	46.9	73.7	20.1
Tallow.....	5.4	4.7	5.9	4.8	7.5	5.5
Total...	219.5	123.7	202.8	106.8	173.6	80.1

1/ 1,000 bales of 480 pounds net.

AUSTRALIANS PLANT FIRST COMMERCIAL SOYBEAN CROP

About 1,500 acres have been planted to soybeans in Australia this year. This is the first commercial planting of soybeans there, although experimental plots have been grown. A government program is encouraging new crops, and unofficial reports indicate increasing attention to oilseed production in order to reduce import needs of fats and oils.

NEW ZEALAND AMENDS 1959 IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES

New Zealand's original 1959 import licensing schedule (see Foreign Crops and Markets, November 3, 1958) which provided for considerable relaxation in licensing of dollar imports has recently been amended for the second time.

In April, quotas announced in October 1958 for dried fruits--currants, dates, figs, prunes, raisins, apricots, peaches, and mixed dried fruits (other than peaches)--were increased by 16 2/3 percent.

With New Zealand's improved dollar exchange situation and the sterling area's continued policy of relaxing "dollar discrimination", New Zealand has increased exchange allocations for 1959 imports by £20 million (\$56 million) effective June 6. The new, and previous, quotas for the principal agricultural items are:

<u>Commodity</u>	<u>April 1959 quota allocation</u>	<u>June 6 quota allocation</u>
Dried currants, dates, figs, prunes, and raisins	75 percent of 1957 imports plus 16-2/3 percent of 1959 basic licenses	115 percent of 1959 licenses issued prior to May 31, 1959
Dried apricots, peaches and mixed dried pack (excluding peaches)	100 percent of 1958 licenses plus 16-2/3 percent of 1959 basic licenses	115 percent of 1959 licenses issued prior to May 31, 1959
Glucose and grape sugar	75 percent of 1958 licenses	100 percent of 1958 licenses
Rice, milled or unmilled (in bulk)	100 percent of 1958 licenses	125 percent of 1958 licenses
Seeds, flower	50 percent of 1957 imports	75 percent of 1957 imports

Provision is also being made for increased imports of certain items during the remainder of 1959 on an "individual consideration basis". Chief agricultural products to be licensed in this manner are dried vegetables (manufacturers' requirements only), lemon juice, lemons, oranges, soybean oil, and linseed oil. Imports of the vegetable oils are also limited to manufacturers' requirements.

SUEZ CANAL NORTHBOUND SOYBEAN SHIPMENTS
CONTINUE HIGH, COPRA DOWN

Northbound shipments of oilseeds through the Suez Canal in March equaled those of March 1958. The quantity of copra was down sharply, but larger volumes of soybeans, peanuts, and cottonseed offset the smaller copra shipments.

Soybean shipments in the first 6 months of the current marketing year totaled 14.6 million bushels, more than twice the 6.4 million bushels shipped in October-March of 1957-58. However, shipments of copra were down almost one-half, and the total 6-month volume of northbound oilseed this marketing year was only slightly above a year earlier.

OILSEEDS: Northbound shipments, Suez Canal, March 1958 and 1959,
October-March 1957-58 and 1958-59

	March		October-March	
	1958	1959	1957-58	1958-59
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	short tons	short tons	short tons	short tons
Soybeans 1/.....	91.5	102.5	190.7	438.7
Copra.....	83.8	49.6	501.5	280.0
Peanuts.....	14.3	23.1	90.4	88.2
Cottonseed.....	5.5	17.6	71.6	65.0
Flaxseed 2/.....	5.5	3.3	26.5	15.4
Others.....	19.8	24.3	105.8	115.7
Total.....	220.4	220.4	986.5	1,003.0

1/ To convert to bushels use 33.3 bushels per ton. 2/ To convert to bushels use 35.7 bushels per ton.

Source: Suez Canal Authority, Monthly Bulletin (Cairo, Egypt).

U. S. COTTON LINTERS
EXPORTS UP IN MAY

U.S. exports of cotton linters, mostly chemical qualities, were 28,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in May 1959. This was an increase of 33 percent from April exports of 21,000 bales, and 65 percent above the 17,000 bales exported in May 1958.

Exports during August-May 1958-59 totaled 254,000 bales--up 26 percent from exports of 202,000 bales in the same months a year earlier.

Principal destinations of linters exports during August-May 1958-59, with comparable 1957-58 figures in parentheses, were: West Germany 100,000 bales (100,000); Japan 59,000 (20,000); United Kingdom 39,000 (40,000); Canada 26,000 (24,000); and France 22,000 (14,000).

FEWER APPLES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

British Columbia's 1959 apple harvest is preliminarily estimated at 4,266,000 bushels (45 pounds to the bushel). This would be 29 percent smaller than the 1958 crop of 6,016,000 bushels.

ARGENTINA'S COTTON CROP
SMALLEST IN 12 YEARS

Argentina's 1958-59 cotton crop is expected to be the smallest since 1946-47. Current estimates place it at only 400,000 bales of 500 pounds gross weight. This would be nearly 50 percent below last year's record crop of 783,000 bales and 33 percent below the average of 597,000 bales in the past 5 seasons, 1953-57.

The sharp drop in production this year was the result of excessive rain-fall throughout the season, and heavy infestation of pink bollworms. Late-season floods completely submerged some fields; about 300,000 acres had to be abandoned, and the quality of the salvaged crops suffered.

Acreage reaching maturity amounted to an estimated 1,500,000 acres. Last year, 1,655,000 acres were harvested, and the 1953-57 average was 1,403,000 acres.

U. S. COTTON EXPORTS
UP SLIGHTLY IN MAY

U.S. exports of cotton (all types) in May 1959 were 257,000 bales of 500 pounds gross weight (249,000 running bales). This was a slight increase from April exports of 256,000 bales but less than half the 558,000 bales exported in May 1958.

Exports during August-May 1958-59 totaled 2,517,000 bales (2,425,000 running bales), against 5,020,000 bales in the same months of 1957-58. Total exports in the 1958-59 season (August-July) are expected to be around 2,800,000 running bales, compared with 5,700,000 last season.

Sales under the 1958-59 cotton export program of the Commodity Credit Corporation, for export between August 1, 1958 and July 31, 1959, came to 2,355,756 running bales as of June 29, 1959. The average selling price, basis Middling 1-inch cotton, average location, was 28.48 cents per pound for the June 29 sales, compared with 28.49 cents for the previous sales on June 15. In addition to the CCC sales, registrations of cotton for export under the 1958-59 "payment-in-kind" program amounted to 406,664 bales as of June 26.

By June 26, a total of 575,185 bales of cotton had been registered under the 1959-60 "payment-in-kind" program for export on or after August 1, 1959.

COTTON: United States exports of cotton by country of destination, averages 1935-39 and 1950-54, annual 1956 and 1957, August-May 1957-58 and 1958-59

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of destination	Year beginning August 1					
	Average		1956	1957	August-May	
	1935-39:	1950-54:			1957-58:	1958-59
	bales	bales	bales	bales	bales	bales
Austria.....	0	38	55	55	48	13
Belgium & Luxembourg.....	169	121	337	182	168	37
Denmark.....	33	29	25	26	25	7
Finland.....	35	13	33	19	19	13
France.....	662	431	433	367	253	188
Germany, West.....	511	382	1,061	623	572	95
Italy.....	442	379	722	572	491	138
Netherlands.....	107	127	260	113	98	14
Norway.....	17	14	21	13	12	1
Poland & Danzig.....	180	1/	27	248	202	93
Portugal.....	36	7	91	24	22	12
Spain.....	108	142	174	217	174	296
Sweden.....	115	53	111	130	110	34
Switzerland.....	11	42	121	81	75	10
United Kingdom.....	1,346	434	1,050	709	626	177
Yugoslavia.....	17	86	141	115	51	117
Other Europe.....	2/ 96	8	38	18	17	2
Total Europe.....	3,885	2,306	4,700	3,512	2,963	1,247
Australia.....	9	31	81	67	57	35
Canada.....	301	311	380	277	233	71
Chile.....	9	24	74	35	34	2
Colombia.....	20	30	52	69	61	21
Cuba.....	11	19	31	46	37	7
French North Africa.....	3/	9	17	11	11	11
Hong Kong.....	3/	8	95	138	114	104
India.....	52	253	301	114	109	63
Indonesia.....	3/	19	43	31	29	11
Israel.....	3/	12	19	18	14	10
Japan.....	1,142	871	1,589	1,174	994	489
Korea, Republic of.....	3/	80	220	207	168	195
Philippines.....	2	9	36	59	48	66
Taiwan (Formosa).....	3/	85	162	110	78	137
Union of South Africa.....	3/	6	31	37	30	13
Other countries.....	4/ 158	61	5/ 86	54	40	35
Total 500-lb. bales.....	5,589	4,134	7,917	5,959	5,020	2,517
Total running bales.....	5,300	3,977	7,598	5,717	4,815	2,425

1/ Less than 500 bales. 2/ Includes Czechoslovakia 65 and Norway 17.
 3/ If any, included in other countries. 4/ Includes China 117, and French Indochina 22. 5/ Includes Bolivia 11, Pakistan 28, and Uruguay 15.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

BURMA'S COTTON PRODUCTION CONTINUES AT LOWER LEVEL

Burma's 1958-59 cotton crop is estimated at 55,000 bales (500 pounds gross). This is the same as the 1957-58 crop but 37 percent below average production of 87,000 bales in the period 1953-57, and less than half the postwar record crop of 117,000 bales in 1954-55. The smaller crops in recent years are attributed to declining acreage--from 450,000 acres in 1954-55 to 290,000 in 1958-59, and insufficient rainfall especially at planting time. No cotton is grown under irrigation in Burma.

Cotton exports from Burma during the first 5 months (August-December) of this season, at 16,000 bales, were also the same as a year earlier. Destinations of the August-December 1958 exports, with comparable 1957 figures in parentheses, were: Japan 12,000 bales (5,000); and Communist China 4,000 (9,000).

In recent years the annual rate of cotton consumption in Burma has been around 21,000 bales, about 10,000 bales of which have been used in the textile mill at Thamaing and the remainder for padding of clothing and mattresses, hand-drawn yarns, and other nonmill uses. Consumption may reach around 30,000 bales this season, as the Thamaing mill facilities have been expanded.

By early March 1959, Burma had purchased about 5,000 bales of U.S. cotton under a Public Law 480 agreement. This is the first significant quantity of cotton to be imported into Burma in several years. In addition to the direct imports of raw cotton, yarn and textiles will be imported under Public Law 480 triangular agreements whereby U.S. cotton will be shipped to various countries for processing before entering Burma. Processing agreements have been signed with India, Japan, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Hong Kong, Israel, Yugoslavia, West Germany, Pakistan, and France.

COPRA, COCONUT OIL EXPORTS DOWN SHARPLY

The cumulative effect of drought in the Far East continues to reduce world copra and coconut oil availabilities. January-March exports were down sharply from the first quarter of 1957, the most recent year for which reasonably good statistics are available. Moreover, indications are that the sharp decline continued through the second quarter of 1959.

World recorded exports of copra and coconut oil for January-March 1959 are estimated at 213,500 long tons, oil or oil equivalent--about one-third less than the 329,250 tons exported in the comparable period of 1957. But unrecorded shipments to Western Europe may have raised first-quarter 1958 exports to the 1957 level.

Recorded exports of the 4 major exporting countries--the Philippines, Malaya-Singapore, Indonesia, and Ceylon--in the first quarter of 1959 were down 45 percent from 1957. Ceylon's shipments were up 30 percent, but exports from the other countries were down about 50 percent.

COPRA AND COCONUT OIL: World exports recorded by major exporting countries and areas, calendar years 1957 and 1958, January-March 1957-59 ^{1/}

Commodity and source	January-December			January-March				
			Percentage			Percentage	Percentage	
	1957	1958	change 1958: from 1957	1957	1958	1959	change 1958: from 1957	change 1959: from 1957
	Long tons	Long tons	Percent	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Percent	Percent
Copra:								
Philippines ^{1/}	988,366	736,124	-25.5	235,386	183,031	116,564	-22.2	-50.5
Malaya-Singapore ^{1/}	116,627	88,685	-24.0	24,246	31,926	22,638	31.7	-6.6
Indonesia ^{1/}	112,762	1,285	-98.9	40,418	1,285	19,600	-96.8	-51.5
Ceylon.....	34,767	27,700	-20.3	5,690	3,659 ^{2/}	13,000	-35.7	128.5
Total.....	1,252,522	853,794	-31.8	305,740	219,901	171,802	-28.1	-43.8
North Borneo ^{1/}	53,106	66,249	24.7	9,640	14,589	11,887	51.3	23.3
Other Asia.....	1,100	1,000	-9.1	500	500	3	---	3
Oceania.....	231,614	218,586	-5.6	64,540	51,608	3	-20.0	3
Africa.....	73,323	93,464	27.5	15,480	21,090	3	36.2	3
Total.....	359,143	379,299	5.6	90,160	87,787 ^{3/}	90,000	-2.6	3
World total.....	1,611,665	1,233,093	-23.5	395,900	307,688	261,802	-22.3	-33.9
Coconut oil:								
Philippines.....	92,996	89,648	-3.6	24,702	17,756	14,396	-28.1	-41.7
Malaya-Singapore ^{1/}	101,177	68,481	-32.3	26,830	18,864	5,366	-29.7	-80.0
Ceylon.....	54,073	44,336	-18.0	12,543	12,275	2/12,800	-2.1	2.0
Total.....	248,246	202,465	-18.4	64,075	48,895	32,562	-23.7	-49.2
Other Asia ^{4/}	2,551	1,823	-28.5	2,010	16	3	-99.2	3
Oceania and Africa.....	50,729	55,349	9.1	13,750	10,424	3	-24.2	3
Total.....	53,280	57,172	7.3	15,760	10,440	3/16,000	-33.8	3
World total.....	301,526	259,637	-13.9	79,835	59,335	48,562	-25.7	-39.2
Copra and coconut oil:								
(oil or oil equivalent):								
Philippines ^{1/}	715,666	553,406	-22.7	172,995	133,066	87,831	-23.1	-49.2
Malaya-Singapore ^{1/}	74,652	124,353	-28.8	42,104	38,977	19,628	-7.4	-53.4
Indonesia ^{1/}	71,040	810	-98.9	25,463	810	12,348	-96.8	-51.5
Ceylon.....	75,976	61,787	-18.7	16,128	14,580	2/20,990	-9.6	30.1
Total.....	1,037,334	740,356	-28.6	256,690	187,433	140,797	-27.0	-45.1
(Percent of world total):	(78.8)	(71.4)	---	(78.0)	(74.0)	(65.9)	---	---
Other Asia.....	36,701	44,190	20.4	8,398	9,522	3	13.4	3
Oceania and Africa.....	242,839	251,941	3.7	64,163	56,224	3	-12.4	3
Total.....	279,540	296,131	5.9	72,561	65,746	3/72,700	-9.4	3
World total.....	1,316,874	1,036,487	-21.3	329,251	253,179	213,497	-23.1	-35.2

^{1/} The figures in this table represent essentially gross exports shipped directly from source to final destination. Thus, Indonesian exports would exclude recorded and unrecorded copra shipments to Malaya-Singapore, which processing and re-exporting country reships the Indonesian copra either as copra or as oil. Likewise, exports of Indonesia and the Philippines to North Borneo, all unrecorded, are included in the North Borneo export figures. The unrecorded exports excluded from this table include only the clandestine shipments made direct from source to final destination, or those quantities underdeclared on the bills of lading.

^{2/} March 1959 estimated.

^{3/} Not available; total estimated at 1957 level.

^{4/} Including Indonesia.

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(PMGC)

Official Business

1959 CANADIAN VEGETABLE CONTRACT ACREAGE DOWN

About 10 percent less vegetable acreage has been contracted by processors in Canada for 1959 than for 1958, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, and Alberta, contracted acreage is as follows for the 2 years:

Vegetables	Quebec		Ontario		Manitoba		Alberta		Total	
	1958	1/ 1959	1958	1959	1958		1959		1958	1959
Asparagus.....	2/	2/	1,670	1,990	---		---		1,670	1,990
Beans.....	7,190	5,570	1,090	1,360	880		670		9,160	7,600
Corn.....	11,560	11,250	20,640	19,660	4,420		4,670		36,620	35,580
Peas.....	11,500	11,320	14,900	13,800	6,670		6,660		33,070	31,780
Tomatoes.....	5,860	4,000	32,800	26,700	2/		2/		38,660	30,700

1/ Revised. 2/ Less than 3 firms reporting; included in Ontario.

British Columbia data for 1959, with 1958 acreage in parentheses, is as follows: asparagus, 320 (250); beans, 1,360 (1,140); corn 1,940 (1,180); peas, 5,030 (4,300). Tomato contracting has been delayed pending decision on price support assistance. Figures are not yet available from the Maritime Provinces.